

#3/B
4-16-02
RP

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Prior Application: SU et al.
Serial No. 09/571,597
Filed: May 15, 2000

Group Art Unit: 1713
Examiner: F. Zitomer
For: SOLVENTLESS NONTOXIC HIGH
REFRACTIVE INDEX AND LOW
BIREFRINGENCE ORGANIC-INORGANIC
HYBRID MATERIALS

Honorable Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified Divisional application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 11, page 3, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--In the first step, the solventless metal aliphatic acryl alkoxides are synthesized. They have the general formula of $M[-OR_1-O-CO-C(R_2)=CR_3R_4]_n$. Where the M is a metal element or a mixture of metal elements. The metal can be selected from the metals in the periodic table except toxic metal such as lead. The metals with the atomic number greater than the silicon element is preferred. The n value is dependent on the valence of metal. Where R1 is a straight chain alkyl group or branched alkyl group. The straight chain is preferred with the formula of $(-CH_2-)_n$. Where n is equal to 1 to 12 and n is equal to 1 to 4 is preferred. Where R2, R3, R4 can be a hydrogen atom or straight chain alkyl group $(-CH_2-)_n$ or branched alkyl group. The straight chain alkyl group is preferred, n is equal to 1 to 12 and n is equal to 1 to 4 is preferred. The metal aliphatic acryl alkoxides are synthesized either by reacting metal with acrylate alcohol or by reacting metal alkoxide with acrylate alcohol through an alcohol exchange. The alcohol exchange

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